Statement under 37 CFR 1.111

37 CFR 1.111 requires that the basis for amendments to the claims be pointed out after consideration of the references cited or the objections made. 37 CFR 1.111 states in part that:

In amending in response to a rejection of claims in an application or patent undergoing reexamination, the applicant or patent owner must clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. He or she must also show how the amendments avoid such references or objections.

Since the decisions in: In re Weber, 580 F.2d 455, 198 USPQ 328 (CCPA 1978) and In re Haas, 580 F.2d 461, 198 USPQ 334 (CCPA 1978), it is improper for the Office to refuse to examine that which applicants regard as their invention, unless the subject matter in a claim lacks unity of invention. In re Harnisch, 631 F.2d 716, 206 USPQ 300(CCPA 1980); and Ex parte Hozumi, 3 USPQ2d 1059 (Bd. Pat. App. & Int. 1984). The primary reason the claims were amended is that they possess unity of invention. Given this fact, it is clear that the restriction requirement was/is improper. The amendment puts the improperly restricted claims back in their original state and fixes inadvertent clerical errors.

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Examiner: Richard Weisberger Art Unit: 3624

Conclusion

The pending claims are of a form and scope for allowance. Prompt recognition of this fact is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted.

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Date: April 7, 2006